

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated July 13, 2005. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 20-23, 26 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Dudkiewicz*, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0152474 (hereinafter *Dudkiewicz*). Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dudkiewicz*. Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dudkiewicz* in view of *Bertram et al.*, U.S. Publication No. 2003/0103532 A1. Claims 6-19, 29-34 and 38-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dudkiewicz* in view of *Herz et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,088,722 A1. Claims 44-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 2-5, 27, 28, 36 and 37 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 44 was also objected to for an informality.

Claims 1, 3-5, 26, 28, 35, 37, and 44 are amended as shown above. Specifically, each of independent claims 1, 26, and 35 have been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of respective dependent claims 2, 27, and 36, putting each of these independent claims and claims 3-25, 28-34, and 37-43 dependent thereon in condition for allowance. In conjunction with the amendments to claims 1, 26, and 35, claims 2, 27, and 36 have been cancelled. Independent claim 44 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and the informality, putting independent claim 44 and each of claims 45-56 dependent thereon in condition for allowance. Thus, each of now pending claims 1, 3-25, 28-35, and 37-56 are now in condition for allowance.

If there are any informalities or questions that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 292-8600.


Charge Deposit Account

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Sept 13, 2005


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